

09/980282

JC03 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 DEC 2001

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PCT APPLICATION AS  
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ABSTRACT**

**(10) International Publication Number**  
**WO 00/74812 A1**

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

**(57) Abstract:** The invention relates to a degassing centrifugal apparatus such as a pump and to a process for pumping and degassing a fluid. The apparatus has a rotatable hollow rotor (20) connected to a stationary fluid inlet (14) at one end and a stationary liquid outlet (16) at the opposite end and a gas exhaust (36) in the center thereof. The rotor (20) has at its inlet end a bladed shovel wheel (26) with arcuate shovels (24). The shovel wheel (26) accelerates a fluid flow in said rotor inlet end and causes the fluid to rotate at a peripheral velocity higher than the peripheral velocity of said rotor inlet end. The apparatus is especially useful for pumping and degassing backwater in the production of paper or board in a paper machine.